

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1150
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2001
PALACE ON WHEEL IN DIFFERENT STATES
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA;R.L. JALAPPA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some State Governments have made joint venture with the Railways to start "Palace on Wheel" type of trains in their States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether operational details have been worked out in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which these trains are likely to be started?

Answer

(MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS) (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b) Indian Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Maharashtra on 7th February, 2001 for running a "Palace on Wheel" type train on Mumbai – Ratnagiri – Sindhudurg – Goa – Pune – Aurangabad (Ajanta & Ellora) – Mumbai circuit.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir, the Railways will provide the bare shells of the rake and all facilities necessary for the operation of the train. The entire cost of furnishing the rake, Air Conditioning and other coach equipment fittings will be borne by the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation who will also be responsible for housekeeping hospitality services and sight-seeing.

(e) The luxury train is likely to start during the current year.